

updated version of the House document entitled "Black Americans in Congress, 1870-1989";

(2) The bill (H.R. 1042) to prevent the elimination of certain reports;

(3) The bill (H.R. 1098) to improve the recording and discharging of maritime liens and expand the American Merchant Marine Memorial Wall of Honor, and for other purposes;

(4) The bill (H.R. 1099) to make changes in laws governing Coast Guard personnel, increase marine safety, renew certain groups that advise the Coast Guard on safety issues, make miscellaneous improvements to Coast Guard operations and policies, and for other purposes.

(5) The bill (H.R. 496) to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to promote deployment of advanced services and foster the development of competition for the benefit of consumers in all regions of the Nation by relieving unnecessary burdens on the Nation's two percent local exchange telecommunications carriers, and for other purposes;

(6) The bill (H.R. 802) to authorize the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor, and for other purposes.

□ 1015

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). The gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. PRYCE) is recognized for one hour.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to my good friend, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During the consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Committee on Rules met and passed this resolution providing that it shall be in order at any time on the legislative day of Wednesday, March 21, or Thursday, March 22, for the Speaker to entertain motions to suspend the rules relating to the measures previously outlined by the reading clerk.

The Members and their staffs have had time to examine these rules, and the Committee on Rules is not aware of any controversy or concern. While these items are non-controversial, they are indeed important pieces of legislation to many Members of this body and, more importantly, to the constituents we represent.

Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to support this rule, as well as the six bills it makes in order.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it is not the intention of the Democratic Members of the House to object to this rule. We do, however, object to the continued use of the suspension calendar on days that are under the rules of the House supposed to be used for the consideration of bills on the Union Calendar. Obviously, little business has been reported to the House from its committees,

other than matters from the Committee on Ways and Means. Thus, it seems the majority has come to rely on minor bills to fill the time in between the consideration of tax bills.

Mr. Speaker, there are any number of important issues facing the country today. Education, Social Security, Medicare, national defense, crime and energy are just a few of them; yet we have not seen any signs of any of these issues heading to the floor.

It is time for this Congress to buckle down and get to work; and, Mr. Speaker, we should do our work under regular order.

So, in order to give the House something to do today, Democrats will not object to this rule. But that being said, we cannot be counted on to continue to stand aside as the Republican majority continues to shirk its responsibilities.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, let me remind my colleagues that these are non-controversial measures, and that they are important to many Members of this body. The resolution will simply allow this House to complete its work on these initiatives.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for the resolution and the underlying legislative initiatives.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record vote on H.R. 1099, the Coast Guard Personnel and Maritime Safety Act of 2001, will be taken tomorrow.

Record votes on remaining motions to suspend the rules will be taken today.

PRINTING REVISED UPDATED VERSION OF "BLACK AMERICANS IN CONGRESS, 1870-1989"

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concur-

rent resolution (H. Con. Res. 43) authorizing the printing of a revised and updated version of the House document entitled "Black Americans in Congress, 1870-1989".

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 43

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. PRINTING OF REVISED VERSION OF "BLACK AMERICANS IN CONGRESS, 1870-1989".

(a) IN GENERAL.—An updated version of House Document 101-117, entitled "Black Americans in Congress, 1870-1989" (as revised by the Library of Congress), shall be printed as a House document by the Public Printer, with illustrations and suitable binding, under the direction of the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives.

(b) NUMBER OF COPIES.—In addition to the usual number, there shall be printed 30,700 copies of the document referred to in subsection (a), of which—

(1) 25,000 shall be for the use of the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives; and

(2) 5,700 shall be for the use of the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY).

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I have just a few statements I want to make on this resolution. In the 101st Congress, House Document 101-117, entitled "Black Americans in Congress, 1870-1989," was printed and distributed to the House and the Senate. This document noted the distinguished service of 66 African Americans who had served in the Congress up to that point in time. In fact, when I was elected to the 104th Congress, we happened to have this particular book that was in our office, and it is just a fascinating history and documentation of the 66 African Americans who had served in the Congress. It really makes for an interesting reading and I think pays tribute to those African Americans.

Since that document was printed, some 40 additional African Americans have served in the United States Congress. House Concurrent Resolution 43 will simply direct the Library of Congress to revise the biographies of Members included in the first volume, so it will be an update, and also provide for the inclusion of African American Members of the House and Senate who have been elected since the document was last published.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the passage of this measure. It has been good working with our distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the ranking member of the committee. I know that